

CLAIMS

1. A method for ameliorating the effects of inflammation in a subject, said method comprising administering an agent which inhibits or otherwise antagonizes the effects of a colony-stimulating factor on cells of the monocyte/macrophage lineage thereby reducing the level of proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival of said cells.
2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the agent antagonizes the effects of two or more colony-stimulating factors.
3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.
4. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 further comprising the administration of an agent which antagonizes u-PA and/or other inflammatory mediators produced by a cell of the monocyte/macrophage lineage.
5. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the agent is a colony-stimulating factor receptor in soluble form, a binding protein of a colony-stimulating factor or an antibody to a colony-stimulating factor.
6. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the agent is identified through natural product screening or screening of a chemical library.
7. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the agent is internalized by the monocyte/macrophage.
8. A method for ameliorating the effects of inflammation in a subject, said method comprising administering one or more agents to antagonize the effects of a colony-stimulating

factor on cells of the monocyte/macrophage lineage thereby reducing cell proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival and which antagonize the effects of u-PA and optionally other inflammatory mediators produced by said cells of monocyte/macrophage lineage.

9. A method according to Claim 8 wherein the agent antagonizes the effects of two or more colony-stimulating factors.

10. A method according to Claim 9 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

11. A method according to Claim 10 wherein the agent is a colony-stimulating factor receptor in soluble form, a binding protein of a colony-stimulating factor or an antibody to a colony-stimulating factor.

12. A method according to Claim 8 or 9 wherein the agent is identified through natural product screening or screening of a chemical library.

13. A method according to Claim 8 or 9 wherein the agent is internalized by the monocyte/macrophage.

14. A composition comprising one or more molecules capable of antagonizing the ability of a colony-stimulating factor from activating, proliferating, inducing growth and/or survival of cells of a monocyte/macrophage lineage, said composition further comprising one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

15. A composition according to Claim 14 wherein the agent antagonizes the effects of two or more colony-stimulating factors.

16. A composition according to Claim 15 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

17. A composition according to Claim 14 or 15 or 16 further comprising an agent which antagonizes the effects of u-PA and/or other inflammatory mediators produced by cells of a monocyte/macrophage lineage.

18. A composition comprising an antagonist of u-PA and optionally an antagonist of one or more other inflammatory mediators produced by cells from monocyte/macrophage lineage and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

19. A composition comprising immunointeractive molecules to M-CSF and GM-CSF and an antagonist of u-PA and optionally one or more antagonists to one or more other inflammatory mediators produced by cells of a monocyte/macrophage lineage and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

20. A method for ameliorating the effects of inflammation in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent comprising a monocyte/macrophage interacting ligand chemically linked to an active portion and wherein said agent is in an encapsulated form such that the monocyte/macrophage interacting portion is represented on the outer surface of said encapsulation while the active portion is part of the encapsulated wall or is internal relative to the encapsulation wall such that a monocyte/macrophage cell is capable of internalizing said encapsulated agent and wherein said active portion of said agent antagonizes colony-stimulating factor mediated proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival of said monocyte/macrophage cell and/or antagonizes the production or activity of one or more inflammatory mediators from said monocyte/macrophage cells.

21. A method according to Claim 20 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

22. A method for ameliorating the effects of inflammation in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent comprising a monocyte/macrophage interacting ligand chemically linked to an active portion or a pro-active form thereof and wherein said active portion of said agent antagonizes colony-stimulating factor mediated proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival of said monocyte/macrophage cell and/or antagonizes the production or activity of one or more inflammatory mediators from said monocyte/macrophage cells.

23. A method according to Claim 22 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

24. An agent comprising a monocyte/macrophage interacting ligand chemically linked to an active portion and wherein said agent is in an encapsulated form such that the monocyte/macrophage interacting portion is represented on the outer surface of said encapsulation while the active portion is part of the encapsulated wall or is internal relative to the encapsulation wall such that a monocyte/macrophage cell is capable of internalizing said encapsulated agent and wherein said active portion of said agent antagonizes colony-stimulating factor mediation, proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival of said monocyte/macrophage and/or antagonizes the production or activity of one or more inflammatory mediators.

25. A agent according to Claim 24 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

26. A method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent comprising a monocyte/macrophage interacting ligand chemically linked to an active portion

or a pro-active form thereof and wherein said active portion of said agent antagonizes colony-stimulating factor mediated proliferation, activation, growth and/or survival of said monocyte/macrophage cell and/or antagonizes the production or activity of one or more inflammatory mediators from said monocyte/macrophage cells.

27. A method according to Claim 26 wherein the colony-stimulating factor is M-CSF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF and GM-CSF.

28. A method according to Claim 3 further comprising the administration of an agent which antagonizes u-PA and/or other inflammatory mediators produced by a cell of the monocyte/macrophage lineage.